

RE: DOT Docket Number NHTSA 2003-14375

I believe this study will in no way provide the information needed to reduce motorcycle deaths and injuries.

Personal interviews are not a reliable and valid method of data collection. The interviewer and persons being interviewed could easily have biases in areas such as age, race, gender and economic status, which will influence the data collected. Motorcyclists who are interviewed may not give accurate information. This proposed study is an irresponsible way to spend tax dollars.

The NHTSA should only use actual statistics to make decisions about Motorcycle Safety.

This docket states that the NHTSA is interested in comparing the training and experience differences in riders who have had motorcycle crashes and those who have not. I would suggest that the NHSTA do a pilot study. A few pairs states could be selected, with similar demographics and motorcycling laws. In one of the pairs of states, motorcycle operator safety training would be made widely available at a greatly reduced cost, and in the other state no changes would be made to existing motorcycle operator safety training.

In a year, statistics would be compared to see how motorcycle operator safety training effected motorcycling accidents and injuries. Such a pilot study would cost a fraction of the amount of the study proposed in Docket 2003-14375.